

PSYCHOLOGY 3100: Social Psychology
Section 001, Fall 2025
Tuesday, Thursday, 3:30p-4:50p; GAB 104

Instructor: Dr. Heidemarie Blumenthal

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Office Hours: 3-4p Wed/2-3p Thurs

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Course Goals and Overview: This course focuses on the complex relations among the individual and social processes, both proximal (close to the individual) and distal (further away from the individual), in explaining and predicting human behavior. In other words, we will explore and discuss topics such as the importance of knowing yourself, subtle yet pervasive ways people are often awful to one another, how one can get lost in a movement, and how we can try to help ourselves and others as social animals.

The basic format of this course will consist of lectures, selected multimedia components, and in class discussion. Attendance is not technically required but it is **very, very strongly encouraged**. As we will not be using a textbook, lecture material is your primary source for Weekly Quizzes described below. Further, throughout the course, in-class activities (i.e. **requiring attendance**) will include Response forms and the opportunity to earn extra-extra credit points, presenting another benefit of regular attendance (see Movie Responses and in-class Extra credit below).

Course Policies: This course is designed to foster and maintain a positive learning environment. Your attention is expected during lectures, thus outside material and other distracters should be put up, and laptops/cellphones should be used for note-taking only (otherwise, please silence/put away). **Remember: your unrelated activities will distract other students as well!** Likewise, your active participation during discussions will be encouraged and questions or comments at any time during lectures are welcomed. Importantly, all comments and responses should be friendly and respectful of the other students in the class. Finally, class will begin promptly at the scheduled time. Some quizzes and activity forms will be handed out at the start of class; if you are not there to receive the form you will not receive credit for the activity. If extraordinary circumstances exist that require some deviation from these policies (e.g., family emergency), please see me **before** class. Please feel free to share any further suggestions for maintaining a positive learning environment that you may have.

In regard to INCLEMENT WEATHER, class will be held if the University is open. Students should not jeopardize their safety, however, to attend class. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate those unable to make it to class due to weather problems. If there is any question about whether the class will meet, students should check the announcement board for this class on Canvas.

Please be aware that UNT policy (See <http://policy.unt.edu/policy/12-005>) based on Title 9 of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. § 1681(a); See <https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/title-ix-and-sexual-assault>) entails a duty for institutional employees to report to the university any knowledge regarding recent events of sexual misconduct involving students or employees. Additionally, if you report any information indicating that you have been a victim of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking being a student or employee at UNT, we are required to report this information to concerned authorities as mandated by Texas State Law.

Canvas: Canvas will serve as the primary resource for course updates, store class materials (e.g., power point lecture outlines), host the links to online course assessment activities (e.g., quizzes), and provide our gradebook. Simply go to <https://unt.instructure.com/login/ldap> and enter your EUID and password to access the webpage for this course. **Students should monitor the announcement board regularly and check the announcement board and syllabus prior to e-mailing/calling the instructor or TA.** Emails with questions readily addressed in this document/on Canvas may not receive a reply so that those needing additional information can be prioritized.

Measurement and Examination of Student Achievement: Final grades are allocated as follows:

<u>Weekly Quizzes</u> (10):	200 points	<u>Letter Grade:</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Points Required**</u>
<u>Movie Responses</u> (4):	100 points	A	90-100	270-300
		B	80-89	240-269
		C	70-79	210-239
		D	60-69	180-209
		F	0-59	< 180
<u>Base Total Points:</u>	<u>300 points</u>	+++++++		
		Special Topics (4x2 points):	8 points	
		Service Activity (2x3 points):	6 points	

Grades will NOT be rounded up; extra activities are made available for this reason

Weekly Quizzes: Almost every week there will be a quiz on the material presented in the prior two-three class periods (i.e. since the last quiz). Quizzes will open on Thursdays at 5pm (after class) and close the next Tuesday at 3:29p (right before class/new material). **Weekly quizzes can be opened/started only once**, but there will be no time limit on completion outside of the 3:29p Tuesday deadline. If you so choose, you may use your notes, lecture recordings, even internet searches (though be warned – there’s tons of incorrect info out there!!); however, questions can be answered using your memory and understanding of the recent material with typical engagement with class presentations. Indeed, ‘working backwards’ (i.e., using quizzes to search material) will likely take much longer (and be far less interesting) than listening, taking notes ahead of time, and knocking it out. Given the open note/time-to-complete structure, **you are NOT to share questions via any modality with anyone else** (e.g., other students, electronic forums). Such behavior undermines the entire purpose of a class, and is one of the few behaviors that will be considered cheating in the current course. There are 10 quizzes (200 points) built into the point structure of the course; however, there will be 11 quizzes available, so points from your lowest quiz will be dropped. **In addition to the structure noted above, for this reason there will be no make-ups on weekly quizzes.**

Movie Responses: There will be four (4) movie responses at specific times throughout the course, each worth 25 points. These will include a series of ‘short answer’ questions addressing a relevant documentary that we will watch in class together. **Students must be in class to receive credit for the activity, and answers must be written on the form provided.** Importantly, grading will be based on an objective scale: opinions expressed will not influence grades awarded (also, see Social Justice below).

Movie Response days are detailed in the schedule below (barring uncontrollable schedule changes, such as shifts due to inclement weather closure); if you have an approved University activity (e.g., required

athletics), relevant accommodation through the Office of Disability Access, or the Dean of Students Office has emailed me to confirm additional accommodation (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students>), please email our TA to schedule a make-up. If you miss for any other reason/do not have such documentation, a no-questions make-up day will be held during our last class period (or during our Finals week class period should inclement weather/other needs shift our schedule) – for this (1) you must find and watch the video ahead/on your own (videos will not be shown; they will be announced once shown in class so you will have advance notice), and (2) 10 points will be taken off the top, so quizzes taken on make-up day will only be worth up to 15 points.

Extra Credit Opportunities:

Special topics-extra credit: There will be four (4) special topics activities available at specific times throughout the course, each worth 2 points. These will include a mix of multiple choice, fill in the blank, and/or short answer questions addressing a relevant multimedia component (e.g., podcast, video clip). You can re-open and continue to work on the special topics questions throughout the availability period as needed. Please see below and the additional course calendar for specific days and times each will be available. Importantly, grading will be based on an objective scale: opinions expressed will not influence grades awarded (also, see Social Justice below). Finally, although I strongly encourage you to discuss the content with others, **writing and work here must be your own**. This is an individual activity, and thus use of generative AI, or sharing responses/extensive information prior to both parties completing the assessment is one of the few behaviors that will be considered cheating in the current course.

Service activity-extra credit: At any point prior to Finals Week you may complete and turn in a brief description of a service activity relevant to course objectives. You may do this twice, and will receive up to three (3) points of credit for each. Activities must take at least one hour of your time (not including write-up), and you must clearly detail both what you did and how it connects to content discussed in this course. The recipient(s) must be individuals outside of your home and immediate/close family, and the service must be one of time and effort, NOT just product/financial donation. Get creative here! As long as you are giving back in some way, I know it can be connected to the course! Completion forms will be available for viewing throughout the semester, and both your TAs and I are happy to answer questions as needed. As with all other aspects of the course, this is an individual activity, and **work/reports made must be your own**. Here are just a few links to get you thinking about some of the many, many things you could do:

<https://www.servedenton.org/volunteer>
<https://unitedwaydallas.org/updates/virtual-volunteering-opportunities/>
<https://www.volunteermatch.org/search?l=Denton,%20TX,%20USA>
<https://www.catchafire.org/>
<https://www.dosomething.org/us>
<https://girlsinc.org/take-action/advocacy/>
<https://translatorswithoutborders.org/>
<https://librivox.org/pages/volunteer-for-librivox/>

In class-extra credit: The opportunity to earn a few extra-extra credit points for engaging in in-class activities will occur throughout the course. Extra credit opportunities will take the form of in-class review and/or discussion. There will be no specific studying/preparation required; you'll simply have to be present for that class, and engage in the activity (worth 1 point each).

Academic Honesty: The University of North Texas is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity. It is a violation of University guidelines regarding academic dishonesty to cheat, plagiarize, forge, or commit fraud. Accordingly, severe penalties will follow from the discovery of any representation of another individual's work (in any form) as your own. Further, both/any/all parties involved, regardless of stated intent, will be held responsible for the incident. Cheating in any form can result in a "F" for the course, and violators of the Code of Conduct (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/conduct>) will be referred to the Academic Integrity Office for action. If cheating is suspected but definitive proof is not available, we also reserve the right to re-administer any examination in question. See UNT Honor Code and UNT Policy [06.003, Student Academic Integrity](#) at <https://vpaa.unt.edu/ss/integrity> for more information.

Special Accommodations: If you need any special accommodations or feel there is anything that the instructor needs to know that might improve your learning environment in this class, please discuss this with the instructor as soon as possible. All students should view their instructor as a resource and make appropriate use of her during office hours or scheduled appointments to answer questions, clarify lecture material, etc. Remember, UNT requires that students go through the Office of Disability Access before receiving an accommodation for a course. Specifically:

The ODA works in partnership with faculty and staff to eliminate or minimize barriers in the educational environment and facilitate inclusion on campus by determining reasonable accommodations that will enable every student to have equal access to the full range of UNT programs and services. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access website at <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access> or contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

Social Justice: The University of North Texas is committed to social justice. This instructor concurs with that commitment and expects to maintain a positive, inclusive learning environment based upon open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. Our University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law.

Classroom Behavior: Student behavior that interferes with the instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, etc.

CLASS SCHEDULE

The instructor reserves the right to change the schedule as necessary; some topics will cross over specified weeks.
REMEMBER! Quizzes open after class on Thursdays (5pm), close BEFORE class start on Tuesdays (3:29pm)

<u>Date and Topic</u>	<u>Base Assessment</u>
<i>Part I: Foundations</i>	
8/19 Welcome and Course Overview	
8/21 Intro to Social Psychology	
8/26 Research Design and Considerations*	
8/28 Research Design and Considerations	<u>Quiz 1</u> opens 5pm; closes 3:29pm 9/2
9/2 Self-concept & Self-esteem	
9/4 Self-concept & Self-esteem	<u>Quiz 2</u> opens 5pm; closes 3:29pm 9/9
9/9 Friendship & Intimate Relationships	
9/11 Friendships & Intimate Relationships	<u>Quiz 3</u> opens 5pm; closes 3:29pm 9/16
9/16 Prosocial & Helping Behaviors	
9/18 Movie day! – <u>Movie Response 1</u>	<u>Quiz 4</u> opens 5pm; closes 3:29pm 9/23
9/23 NO CLASS – Catch up day!**	
<i>Part II: Prejudice, Discrimination, & Aggression</i>	
9/25 Stereotypes	
9/30 Prejudice & Discrimination*	
10/2 Movie Day! – <u>Movie Response 2</u>	<u>Quiz 5</u> opens 5pm; closes 3:29pm 10/7
10/7 Opportunities	
10/9 NO CLASS – Catch up day!	<u>Quiz 6</u> opens 5pm; closes 3:29pm 10/14
10/14 Aggression	
10/16 Attributions & Biases**	<u>Quiz 7</u> opens 5pm; closes 3:29pm 10/21
<i>Part III: The Power of Others</i>	
10/21 Group Processes	
10/23 Conformity	<u>Quiz 8</u> opens 5pm; closes 3:29pm 10/28
10/28 Obedience*	
10/30 Obedience	<u>Quiz 9</u> opens 5pm; closes 3:29pm 11/4
11/4 Movie Day! – <u>Movie Response 3</u>	
11/6 Attitudes, Behavior, & Persuasion	
11/11 Attitudes, Behavior, & Persuasion**	<u>Quiz 10</u> opens 5pm (early!); closes 3:29pm 11/18
<i>Part IV: Wrapping it all up</i>	
11/13 Stress & Resilience*	
11/18 Stress & Resilience	
11/20 NO CLASS – Catch up day!	<u>Quiz 11</u> opens 5pm; closes 3:29pm 12/2
11/25 NO CLASS – Thanksgiving Break	
11/27 NO CLASS – Thanksgiving Break	
12/2 Movie Day! – <u>Movie Response 4</u>	
12/4 Movie Response Make-up Day**	

Class Final Period – Tuesday December 9th, 1:30p-3:30p (to be used if needed)

*Section special topics extra credit opens 12:01am

**Section special topics extra credit closes 11:59pm

Student Information Sheet

Please print legibly ****ALSO UNDER CANVAS QUIZZES****

Name: _____

UNT Email address: _____

Student ID number (if known): _____

Class: FR SO JR SR GRAD Major(s): _____

What other psychology courses have you taken? Please note if they were in high school (HS), here at UNT or at another university, as well as your final grade in that course (optional).

Example: General Psychology, UNT B

What did you particularly like about these courses? Dislike?

Why are you taking Social Psychology? What topics (related to this course) are of particular interest to you?

When you think of the best instructors that you have ever had, what did they do that made them better than the rest?

What are your (current) post-graduate goals?
